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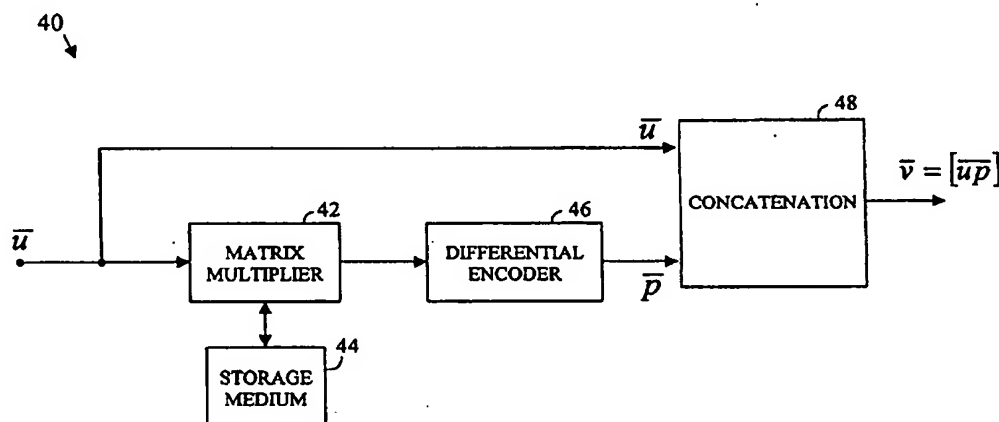
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMPLEMENTING A LOW DENSITY PARITY CHECK CODE IN A WIRELESS SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A low density parity check (LDPC) code is used within a wireless apparatus to perform forward error correction (FEC) coding. Encoding comprises the multiplication (42) with a transpose of a portion (44) of a parity check matrix followed by differential encoding (46). In at least embodiment of the invention, a (2000, 1600) bit-length LDPC code is used.

WO 2005/069527 A1

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMPLEMENTING A LOW DENSITY PARITY CHECK CODE IN A WIRELESS SYSTEM

5 The present application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/536071, filed Jan 12, 2004, entitled "A SYSTEM APPARATUS AND ASSOCIATED METHODS FOR HIGH THROUGHPUT WIRELESS NETWORKING."

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TECHNICAL FIELD

15 The invention relates generally to wireless communications and, more particularly, to error correction coding schemes for use in wireless systems.

BACKGROUND

20 Wireless channels are often plagued by noise and/or interference effects that can compromise the quality of the communication flowing there through. One strategy for addressing these concerns involves the use of a forward error correction code to encode data before it is transmitted. The forward error correction code adds redundant information to the original data that allows errors in transmission to be corrected after signal reception. Structures and techniques are needed for reliably and efficiently implementing forward error
25 correction in wireless systems.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

30 Fig. 1 is a block diagram illustrating an example wireless network arrangement in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a block diagram illustrating an example orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) transmitter chain that may be used within a wireless device in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 3 is a block diagram illustrating an example LDPC encoder in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 4 is a diagram illustrating a Tanner graph that describes an example LDPC code; and

Fig. 5 is a flowchart illustrating an example method for use in processing data within a wireless device in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

In the following detailed description, reference is made to the accompanying drawings that show, by way of illustration, specific embodiments in which the invention may be practiced. These embodiments are described in sufficient detail to enable those skilled in the art to practice the invention. It is to be understood that the various embodiments of the invention, although different, are not necessarily mutually exclusive. For example, a particular feature, structure, or characteristic described herein in connection with one embodiment may be implemented within other embodiments without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. In addition, it is to be understood that the location or arrangement of individual elements within each disclosed embodiment may be modified without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. The following detailed description is, therefore, not to be taken in a limiting sense, and the scope of the present invention is defined only by the appended claims, appropriately interpreted, along with the full range of equivalents to which the claims are entitled. In the drawings, like numerals refer to the same or similar functionality throughout the several views.

Fig. 1 is a block diagram illustrating an example wireless network arrangement 10 in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. As illustrated, one or more wireless user devices 12, 14, 16 are communicating with a wireless access point (AP) 18 via corresponding wireless links. The AP 18 provides access to a network for the user devices 12, 14, 16 (e.g., a private network, a public network, the Internet, a public switched telephone network, a local area network (LAN), a municipal area network (MAN), a wide area network

(WAN), and/or others). The wireless user devices 12, 14, 16 may include any form of device that may be used to wirelessly access a network including, for example, a laptop, desktop, palmtop, or tablet computer having wireless networking capability, a personal digital assistant (PDA) having wireless networking capability, a cellular telephone or other handheld wireless communicator, a pager, and/or others. The wireless links between the wireless devices 12, 14, 16 and the access point 18 may experience noise and/or various interference effects that can compromise communication quality. To overcome such problems, forward error correction may be used. That is, a forward error correction (FEC) coder may be provided within a transmitting device to encode data before it is wirelessly transmitted. When the signal is received, a FEC decoder may be used to decode the signal. The FEC decoder is capable of detecting and correcting one or more errors in the received data. In this manner, errors caused by noise and/or interference effects in the channel may be overcome. In one aspect of the present invention, a low density parity check (LDPC) code is used as a FEC code within a wireless device.

In at least one embodiment, features of the present invention are implemented within an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) based wireless system. Fig. 2 is a block diagram illustrating an example OFDM transmitter chain 20 that may be used within a wireless device (e.g., a wireless user device, a wireless access point, etc.) in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. As illustrated, the transmitter chain 20 may include one or more of: a FEC coder 22, a mapper 24, a serial to parallel converter 26, an inverse fast Fourier transform (IFFT) unit 28, a guard interval (GI) addition unit 30, a wireless transmitter 32, and one or more transmit antennas 34. The FEC coder 22 receives user data at an input thereof and encodes the data using a forward error correction code. As will be described in greater detail, in at least one embodiment, the FEC coder 22 may utilize a special form of low density parity check (LDPC) code to perform the coding. The mapper 24 receives code words from the FEC coder 22 and maps the code words based upon a predetermined modulation constellation. Any form of modulation scheme may be used, including, for example, binary phase shift keying (BPSK), quadrature phase shift keying (QPSK), 16 symbol quadrature amplitude modulation (16-QAM), 64 symbol quadrature amplitude modulation (64-QAM), and/or others. The serial to parallel converter 26 transforms a serial stream of modulation symbols output by the mapper 24 into a parallel format for delivery to the IFFT 28. The IFFT 28 performs an inverse fast Fourier transform on the modulation symbols input thereto to

convert the symbols from a frequency domain representation to a time domain representation.

Although illustrated as an inverse fast Fourier transform in Fig. 2, it should be understood that any form of inverse discrete Fourier transform may be used in the transmitter chain 20.

The GI addition unit 30 adds a guard interval to the time domain signal representation output by the IFFT 28. Guard intervals are placed in transmitted signals to, among other things, increase the immunity of the signals to, for example, multipath effects in the channel. The wireless transmitter 32 is operative for performing functions such as, for example, up-converting the signal, power amplifying the signal, etc. before transmission. One or more transmit antennas 34 may be provided to facilitate signal transmission into the wireless channel. Any form of antenna(s) may be used including, for example, a dipole, a patch, a helix, an antenna array, and/or others. In at least one embodiment, antenna diversity techniques are implemented. In some other embodiments, multiple input, multiple output (MIMO) techniques are used. Other forms of wireless transducer may alternatively be used instead of antennas (e.g., a infrared (IR) diode in an IR-based wireless system, etc.).

It should be appreciated that the transmitter chain 20 of Fig. 2 is merely illustrative of one possible transmitter architecture that may utilize features of the invention. Many other architectures may alternatively be used. In at least one embodiment, a transmitter chain is used that is configured in accordance with an IEEE 802.11 wireless networking standard (ANSI/IEEE Std 802.11-1999 Edition and its progeny). Other wireless standards may alternatively or additionally be used.

As described above, in at least one embodiment of the invention, the FEC coder 22 may utilize a low density parity check (LDPC) code to perform the forward error correction coding. In a general analysis, an (n,k) LDPC code has k information bits and n coded bits with code rate $r = k/n$. A parity check matrix H of dimension $(n-k) \times n$ may be developed that fully describes the LDPC code. The parity check matrix H defines a set of equations:

$$\bar{v} \cdot H^t = 0 \quad (\text{Equation 1})$$

for all code words \bar{v} of the code, where H^t is the transpose of parity check matrix H. An example parity check matrix H and the corresponding expanded parity check equations are shown below for an LDPC code (9,3):

$$H \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & & & & \\ & 1 & & & & & & \\ & & 1 & & & & & \\ 1 & & & & 1 & & & \\ & 1 & & & & & & \\ & & & & 1 & 1 & & \\ & & & 1 & & & 1 & \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_1 + v_4 + v_7 = 0 \\ v_2 + v_3 + v_8 = 0 \\ v_3 + v_6 + v_9 = 0 \\ v_1 + v_5 + v_{10} = 0 \\ v_2 + v_6 + v_7 = 0 \\ v_3 + v_4 + v_8 = 0 \end{cases}$$

where v_k represents the bits of the codeword v . LDPC codes may be encoded via a generator matrix G . For a given information vector \bar{u} to be encoded, the corresponding code word \bar{v} may be generated as follows:

$$\bar{v} = \bar{u} \cdot G \quad (\text{Equation 2})$$

From equations 1 and 2, it follows that:

$$\bar{u} \cdot G \cdot H^t = 0 \quad (\text{Equation 3})$$

Since \bar{u} is an arbitrary vector, the following relationship applies:

$$G \cdot H^t = 0 \quad (\text{Equation 4})$$

For a given parity check matrix H , there will typically be 2^k different G matrices that satisfy Equation 4, provided the rank of the H matrix is $n-k$. One of these generator matrices has the format:

$$G = [I_{k \times k} \mid P_{k \times (n-k)}] \quad (\text{Equation 5})$$

where $I_{k \times k}$ is a $k \times k$ identity matrix and $P_{k \times (n-k)}$ is a $k \times n-k$ matrix. A coder implementing the generator matrix of Equation 5 is known as a systematic encoder since the first k bits of the code word are identical to the k information bits.

The parity check matrix H for an LDPC code may be represented as having two sub-matrices, as follows:

$$H=[H_1|H_2] \quad (\text{Equation 6})$$

where sub-matrix H_1 has dimension $(n-k)*k$ and sub-matrix H_2 has dimension $(n-k)*(n-k)$. According to Equation 4, and assuming that H_2 is non-singular, it follows that:

$$I \cdot H_1' + P \cdot H_2' = 0 \Rightarrow P = H_1' H_2^{-1} \quad (\text{Equation 7})$$

and the codeword \bar{v} is in the format:

$$\bar{v} = \bar{u} \cdot G = [\bar{u} | \bar{u}P] = [\bar{u} | \bar{u}H_1' H_2^{-1}] \quad (\text{Equation 8})$$

For some LDPC codes, high encoding complexity may arise if a high density H_2^{-1} matrix is used in Equation 8 above. However, in at least one embodiment of the present invention, the sub-matrix H_2 is implemented as $f(D) = 1 + D$, which allows H_2^{-1} to be realized using a well known differential encoder. The encoding process in such an embodiment may be expressed as:

$$\bar{v} = [\bar{u} | \bar{u}H_1' H_2^{-1}] = \left[\bar{u} | \bar{u}H_1' \frac{1}{1+D} \right] \quad (\text{Equation 9}).$$

where D is a unit delay.

Fig. 3 is a block diagram illustrating an example LDPC encoder 40 in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. The LDPC encoder 40 may be implemented as part of, for example, the FEC unit 22 of Fig. 2 or FEC functionality within other wireless devices.

As illustrated, the LDPC encoder 40 includes: a matrix multiplier 42, a storage medium 44, a differential encoder 46, and a concatenation unit 48. The storage medium 44 is operative for storing a representation of the sub-matrix H_1 (or the entire parity check matrix H) for use in LDPC encoding. The matrix representation stored on the storage medium 44 may be in conventional matrix form, in list file form (as in Appendix A), in transpose form, or in any other form that is descriptive of the content of the matrix.

Although not shown, the information stored within the storage medium 44 may also be used to perform LDPC decoding within the corresponding wireless apparatus (i.e., during receive operations). Any type of storage medium may be used including, for example, a semiconductor memory, a read only memory (ROM), a random access memory (RAM), an erasable programmable read only memory (EPROM), an electrically erasable programmable read only memory (EEPROM), a flash memory, a magnetic or optical card, a magnetic disk, an optical disk, a CD-ROM, a magneto-optical disk, and/or other forms of machine readable storage. The storage medium 44 may be a dedicated storage unit (e.g., to store only the parity check matrix H , the sub-matrix H_1' , etc.) or it may also be used to store other information.

The matrix multiplier 42 receives an information vector \bar{u} at an input thereof. The matrix multiplier 42 then performs a matrix multiplication of the vector \bar{u} and the sub-matrix H_1' . The result of the matrix multiplication is then delivered to the differential encoder 46 which performs a differential encoding operation thereon (i.e., $\frac{1}{1+D}$). The matrix multiplier 42 and the differential encoder 46 may operate independently of one another or their operation may be pipelined (e.g., once a bit is output from the matrix multiplier 42 it is immediately used by the differential encoder 46). The output of the differential encoder 46 is vector \bar{p} . The concatenation unit 48 concatenates the original information vector \bar{u} with the vector \bar{p} to generate the codeword \bar{v} . The codeword \bar{v} may then be delivered to a next processing stage within a wireless transmitter chain (e.g., mapper 24 in the transmitter chain 20 of Fig. 2).

In at least one embodiment of the present invention, a (2000, 1600) LDPC code is implemented within the transmitter chain of a wireless apparatus. A list file describing a parity check matrix H that is used in one such implementation is set out in Appendix A herein. The list file of Appendix A describes the data within the corresponding parity check matrix. The parity check matrix H of Appendix A (or a portion thereof) may be stored within, for example, the storage medium 44 of Fig. 3. In at least one embodiment, only the portion of the parity check matrix H of Appendix A that corresponds to sub-matrix H_1 (or the transpose thereof) is stored within the storage medium 44 (i.e., the columns having a weight of 4 in the matrix description of Appendix A). The sub-matrix H_1 of the parity check matrix H of Appendix A is relatively low-

density with a uniform column weight of four. The LDPC code corresponding to the matrix H of Appendix A has been designed to provide good performance with variable-length data blocks, while still achieving a manageable implementation complexity. The codeword length has been selected to provide a good tradeoff between performance and complexity for use in wireless (and some wireline) applications. It should be appreciated that small variations may be made to the parity check matrix H of Appendix A with little or no degradation in performance. As used herein, a matrix is "substantially as described in the list file of Appendix A" if the matrix is the same as the matrix described in Appendix A or the matrix varies from the matrix described in Appendix A in a manner that produces little or no degradation in performance.

It should be understood that the parity check matrix H described in Appendix A is merely one example of a parity check matrix that may be used in accordance with embodiments of the present invention. In other embodiments, other parity check matrices may be used.

As described above, the parity check matrix H of Appendix A is described using a list file. This method of matrix description will be discussed below. A parity check matrix H will typically include ones and zeros in locations throughout the matrix. The list file of Appendix A describes the locations of these one and zeros for the subject matrix. A full definition of an LDPC code can be accomplished through identification of the locations of the "edges" between the "variable nodes" (codeword bits) and "check nodes" (parity relationships). Fig. 4 is a diagram illustrating a Tanner graph 50 that describes an example LDPC code. The Tanner graph 50 illustrates the arrangement of the check nodes 52, the variable nodes 54, and the "edges" 56 connecting them for the corresponding code. The codeword is made up of the bits represented by the variable nodes 54. For the code of Fig. 4, each codeword has ten bits. Each check node 52 represents a parity relationship between the codeword bits represented by the variable nodes 54 connected to it by the edges 56. The number of edges 56 connected to a check node 52 is called the "degree" of the check node 52. Likewise, the number of edges 56 connected to a variable node 54 is called the "degree" of the variable node 54. For the illustrated code, all check nodes 52 are of degree eighteen, all variable nodes 54 related to the systematic information bits are of degree four, and all variable nodes 54 corresponding to parity bits are of degree two, except for the last, which is of degree one.

Since the organization of the edges in LDPC codes appears random, the edge locations must be explicitly defined by means of a list. A straightforward means of describing a code by means of such a list follows. The matrix $H = [H_1 \ H_2]$ comprises a regular matrix H_1 with constant column weight 4 and a weight-2 lower-triangular-inverse matrix H_2 for efficient encoding purposes. An LDPC code list file may contain three parts to fully describe a parity check matrix H (i.e., all of the ones of the matrix): (a) matrix size (column, row); (b) column weights (number of ones) of each column; and (c) locations of ones in each column. It should be noted that the convention for the indices is zero-based, with the index of the first element of each column being zero. An example H matrix for a (9,3) LDPC code follows:

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and the corresponding list file is:

```

15          9 6
           2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
           0 3
           1 4
20          2 5
           0 4
           1 5
           2 3
           0 5
25          1 3
           2 4

```

The list file set out in Appendix A for the (2000, 1600) LDPC code follows the same basic

approach.

Fig. 5 is a flowchart illustrating an example method 60 for use in processing data within a wireless device in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. Input data is first matrix multiplied by a transpose of a first portion (i.e., H_1') of a parity check matrix H (block 62). The parity check matrix H (or some portion thereof) may be stored within a storage medium of the wireless device. In at least one embodiment, the parity check matrix H described in Appendix A is used. A result of the matrix multiplication may then be processed by a differential encoder to generate coded data (block 64). The original input data and the coded data are then concatenated to form a code word (block 66). A wireless signal is subsequently generated and transmitted that includes the code word (block 68). Other code words may also be part of the transmission. In at least one embodiment, the wireless signal is an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) signal. In at least one implementation, the method 60 of Fig. 5 (or a variant thereof) is embodied as a plurality of instructions stored on a machine readable storage medium that may be executed by a digital processing device.

The inventive techniques and structures may be used in any of a wide variety of different wireless devices, components, and systems. For example, in various embodiments, features of the invention may be implemented within laptop, desktop, palmtop, and/or tablet computers having wireless networking functionality, personal digital assistants (PDAs) having wireless networking functionality, cellular telephones and other handheld wireless communicators, pagers, satellite communication devices, devices for use in point to point wireless links, devices for use in local multipoint distribution systems (LMDS) and/or multi-channel multipoint distribution services (MMDS), wireless network interface cards (NICs) and other network interface structures, integrated circuits, and/or other devices.

In the foregoing detailed description, various features of the invention are grouped together in one or more individual embodiments for the purpose of streamlining the disclosure. This method of disclosure is not to be interpreted as reflecting an intention that the claimed invention requires more features than are expressly recited in each claim. Rather, as the following claims reflect, inventive aspects may lie in less than all features of each disclosed embodiment.

Although the present invention has been described in conjunction with certain embodiments, it is to be understood that modifications and variations may be resorted to

without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as those skilled in the art readily understand. Such modifications and variations are considered to be within the purview and scope of the invention and the appended claims.

APPENDIX A

The list file for an example (2000, 1600) LDPC code is set out below:

5

2000 400

[illegible]

	143 225 316 323	180 186 241 251	57 211 274 360
	92 140 191 358	239 254 331 342	12 291 311 348
	69 315 329 343	107 149 250 295	34 220 258 282
	6 121 205 284	73 221 295 362	52 58 109 379
5	58 66 254 337	75 97 242 279	116 248 337 369
	1 47 178 395	32 197 244 313	87 146 183 278
	129 151 212 228	245 248 276 296	42 96 318 361
	66 146 243 265	59 230 322 347	32 176 312 361
	22 140 157 180	17 246 291 364	69 258 310 389
10	120 208 313 321	125 157 227 390	1 84 182 300
	290 350 370 382	122 205 279 348	45 124 161 396
	56 94 184 215	61 298 340 380	15 76 99 101
	84 119 337 344	12 31 256 328	62 248 354 375
	2 156 244 398	119 163 178 217	78 258 262 311
15	9 106 200 336	61 129 185 200	181 265 364 368
	22 37 150 270	34 38 104 295	60 168 227 254
	3 110 326 367	119 289 349 377	162 231 270 377
	235 276 290 335	50 314 322 367	14 102 139 158
	82 187 193 297	28 48 248 382	28 79 155 318
20	43 183 297 379	32 41 128 201	28 40 63 236
	194 239 243 293	91 115 220 368	163 181 258 279
	90 144 228 350	45 151 196 265	158 176 273 334
	170 206 321 395	152 190 198 317	80 236 256 380
	72 138 254 300	157 212 242 275	74 156 214 358
25	25 196 201 279	2 40 249 283	176 229 251 283
	56 59 362 379	195 280 299 345	19 104 114 162
	28 121 170 277	142 151 220 395	141 284 291 358
	61 273 351 386	70 121 252 382	77 123 157 361
	71 76 232 328	52 244 279 297	141 154 215 338
30	62 109 190 201	22 131 256 349	55 294 296 298
	111 162 190 227	47 52 339 346	80 109 272 364
	189 272 288 302	50 288 342 388	43 206 287 363
	14 49 147 334	26 87 247 283	81 175 206 261
	33 53 213 238	67 127 132 136	31 94 275 317
35	53 219 368 379	146 264 321 323	10 123 141 279
	126 149 188 339	210 275 319 346	44 64 157 270
	108 118 182 393	57 160 252 261	160 243 290 373
	0 37 160 295	26 54 170 197	39 217 262 324
	158 200 335 356	120 218 229 341	19 185 312 389
40	11 20 229 397	44 53 124 323	211 271 277 291
	77 86 212 250	0 113 315 358	19 148 155 324
	79 193 262 336	110 144 246 298	24 94 124 314
	43 104 125 376	89 91 99 346	3 85 193 349
	55 114 134 293	21 32 216 393	68 175 202 253
45	240 283 299 333	37 170 209 342	139 160 337 377
	0 24 57 100	49 58 357 399	21 224 249 398
	46 84 322 341	18 23 31 373	113 122 206 327
	5 43 45 221	159 172 195 366	7 10 156 245
	29 217 274 301	213 335 337 378	55 140 182 192 235
50	81 93 116 278	1 103 159 277	161 291 324 387
	93 174 213 231	96 159 209 387	31 232 237 350
	64 201 251 385	102 165 234 378	30 184 235 387
	76 134 278 370	173 245 356 376	136 226 269 327
	71 93 182 398	57 230 240 314	60 4 93 136 167
	38 174 250 377	1 89 153 166	47 148 309 348
	19 116 357 372	25 32 264 342	73 225 252 290
	81 91 164 307	265 276 321 324	44 213 361 386

	79 319 361 381	118 150 267 324	132 197 238 279
	74 251 339 356	68 82 309 398	16 94 150 222
	100 105 246 293	72 154 226 231	241 344 375 386
	68 101 191 285	76 135 151 384	31 121 161 231
5	32 103 323 355	39 48 80 309	9 33 197 350
	122 188 228 305	0 178 305 353	87 197 233 312
	6 77 291 397	88 136 196 321	100 111 129 368
	70 76 259 276	37 95 222 300	184 278 289 346
	72 270 335 348	23 343 358 369	76 177 227 356
10	93 147 255 312	195 252 303 349	11 132 246 314
	92 112 259 388	9 81 102 317	46 93 103 309
	9 18 61 308	20 219 285 316	20 33 64 196
	3 137 139 257	219 281 304 354	111 134 194 204
	165 217 345 354	33 121 319 351	76 116 140 238
15	78 134 263 280	21 157 191 260	189 298 326 381
	186 213 227 303	0 88 303 307	235 317 320 333
	68 194 294 346	13 23 62 268	127 301 348 376
	35 225 284 312	13 173 279 320	51 286 309 377
	117 188 340 346	117 189 253 392	17 70 139 187
20	258 299 306 331	32 40 57 350	54 180 184 344
	83 194 207 349	57 123 148 368	85 311 318 327
	43 141 175 329	18 96 164 326	263 312 364 369
	0 68 170 262	84 103 107 359	97 149 198 336
	25 36 153 309	92 338 350 355	31 141 151 285
25	57 62 273 323	16 70 242 338	72 163 187 311
	7 19 75 264	20 74 141 179	24 54 249 297
	21 254 259 366	159 246 248 365	64 143 322 360
	8 97 156 172	207 292 387 399	53 73 122 256
	9 185 313 330	38 148 303 347	100 138 214 226
30	55 219 253 393	68 113 296 389	265 348 373 378
	86 120 185 233	12 257 286 325	42 62 113 174
	41 136 191 242	50 287 294 327	29 313 349 358
	194 265 303 393	149 259 356 367	154 179 217 268
	256 285 310 399	3 12 178 309	164 289 380 392
35	103 247 275 378	63 92 166 368	109 165 236 312
	115 218 225 285	97 190 199 363	92 141 193 238
	98 196 217 328	13 86 92 308	190 243 267 275
	177 267 306 350	132 141 221 322	95 143 203 393
	82 299 320 395	213 257 348 396	130 213 264 308
40	139 251 364 381	91 147 294 325	102 133 217 226
	42 118 178 194	14 27 48 222	69 88 116 295
	73 100 198 286	11 81 110 360	108 217 273 322
	68 249 292 376	10 50 357 393	26 287 306 343
	13 216 221 256	35 89 248 252	50 8 18 136 152
45	127 138 177 398	6 55 319 345	110 240 245 334
	20 69 239 264	107 116 223 271	225 255 278 310
	3 126 132 163	168 240 261 384	63 168 170 303
	66 88 169 271	54 204 295 351	8 17 255 314
	88 197 201 387	3 51 146 299	55 28 92 98 200
	1 51 135 149	74 184 307 361	112 201 244 392
	257 294 331 356	9 202 272 387	134 216 344 383
	204 260 288 294	106 198 281 329	21 97 115 396
	45 144 185 383	36 105 225 236	28 69 120 380
	173 310 329 362	90 139 183 299	60 34 259 267 314
	15 165 305 348	152 160 292 354	55 72 87 223
	27 66 85 182	11 115 227 236	43 180 185 252
	47 235 238 246	152 202 211 373	23 113 133 277
	230 276 293 367	4 173 346 374	258 285 347 350

	246 253 318 399	60 109 199 348	22 132 258 368
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341 342	372 373	

What is claimed is:

1. A wireless apparatus comprising:

a forward error correction (FEC) coder to encode digital data using a low density parity check (LDPC) code, said FEC coder including:

5 a matrix multiplication unit to multiply input data by a transpose of a first portion of a parity check matrix to generate modified data;

a differential encoder to differentially encode said modified data to generate coded data; and

10 a concatenation unit to concatenate the input data and the coded data to form a code word; and

a wireless transmitter to transmit a wireless signal that includes said code word.

2. The wireless apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

said wireless signal is an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) signal.

3. The wireless apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

15 a mapper, between said FEC coder and said wireless transmitter, to map said code word based on a predetermined modulation scheme; and

an inverse discrete Fourier transform unit to convert mapped data from a frequency domain representation to a time domain representation.

4. The wireless apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

20 said parity check matrix is substantially as described in the list file of Appendix A.

5. The wireless apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

said parity check matrix is the same as the matrix described in the list file of Appendix A.

6. The wireless apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

25 a storage medium to store a representation of at least said first portion of said parity check matrix for use by said matrix multiplication unit.

7. The wireless apparatus of claim 6, wherein:
said storage medium is operative to store a representation of the entire parity check matrix.
8. The wireless apparatus of claim 6, wherein:
5 said storage medium is operative to store a matrix that is substantially as described in the list file of Appendix A.
9. The wireless apparatus of claim 6, wherein:
said storage medium is operative to store a matrix that is a portion of a matrix that is substantially as described in the list file of Appendix A, said portion of said matrix being a
10 portion having columns of weight 4.
10. The wireless apparatus of claim 1, wherein:
said LDPC code is a (2000, 1600) bit-length code.
11. The wireless apparatus of claim 1, wherein:
said wireless apparatus is a wireless user device for use in a wireless network.
- 15 12. The wireless apparatus of claim 1, wherein:
said wireless apparatus is a wireless access point.
13. The wireless apparatus of claim 1, wherein:
said wireless apparatus is a wireless network interface module.
14. The wireless apparatus of claim 1, wherein:
20 said wireless apparatus is an integrated circuit.
15. A method comprising:
matrix multiplying input data by a transpose of a first portion of a parity check matrix;
processing a result of said matrix multiplication using differential encoding to generate coded data;

concatenating said input data and said coded data to form a code word; and
generating and transmitting a wireless signal that includes said code word.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein:
said wireless signal is an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) signal.

5 17. The method of claim 15, further comprising:
accessing a storage medium storing a representation of at least a portion of said parity
check matrix before matrix multiplying.

18. The method of claim 15, wherein:
said parity check matrix is substantially as described in the list file of Appendix A.

10 19. The method of claim 15, wherein:
said parity check matrix is the same as the matrix described in the list file of Appendix
A.

20. The method of claim 15, wherein:
said parity check matrix defines a (2000, 1600) bit-length LDPC code.

15 21. The method of claim 15, wherein:
generating and transmitting a wireless signal includes mapping said code word into
modulation symbols and processing said modulation symbols using an inverse discrete
Fourier transform.

20 22. An article comprising a machine readable storage medium having a representation of
at least a portion of a parity check matrix stored thereon, said parity check matrix being
substantially as described in the list file of Appendix A.

23. The article of claim 22, wherein:
said machine readable storage medium has a representation of the entire parity check
matrix stored thereon.

24. The article of claim 22, wherein:

said machine readable storage medium has a portion of said parity check matrix stored thereon that includes all columns of weight 4.

25. The article of claim 22, wherein:

5 said parity check matrix is the same as the matrix described in the list file of Appendix A.

26. The article of claim 22, wherein:

said parity check matrix defines a (2000, 1600) bit-length LDPC code.

27. The article of claim 22, wherein:

10 said article includes a wireless communication device.

28. The article of claim 22, wherein:

said article comprises only said machine readable storage medium.

29. The article of claim 22, wherein:

15 said machine readable storage medium comprises at least one of the following: a semiconductor memory, a read only memory (ROM), a random access memory (RAM), an erasable programmable read only memory (EPROM), an electrically erasable programmable read only memory (EEPROM), a flash memory, a magnetic card, an optical card, a magnetic disk, an optical disk, a CD-ROM, and a magneto-optical disk.

30. A system comprising:

20 a forward error correction (FEC) coder to encode digital data using a low density parity check (LDPC) code, said FEC coder including:

a matrix multiplication unit to multiply input data by a transpose of a first portion of a parity check matrix to generate modified data;

a differential encoder to differentially encode said modified data to generate coded data; and

a concatenation unit to concatenate the input data and the coded data to form a code word;

5 a wireless transmitter to transmit a wireless signal that includes said code word; and
at least one dipole antenna coupled to said wireless transmitter to facilitate transmission of said wireless signal.

31. The system of claim 30, wherein:
said wireless signal is an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) signal.

10 32. The system of claim 30, further comprising:
a storage medium to store a representation of at least said first portion of said parity check matrix for use by said matrix multiplication unit.

33. The system of claim 30, wherein:
said parity check matrix is substantially as described in the list file of Appendix A.

15 34. An article comprising a storage medium having instructions stored thereon that, when executed by a computing platform, operate to:

matrix multiply input data by a transpose of a first portion of a parity check matrix;
process a result of said matrix multiplication using differential encoding to generate coded data;

20 concatenate said input data and said coded data to form a code word; and
generate and transmit a wireless signal that includes said code word.

35. The article of claim 34, wherein:
said wireless signal is an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) signal.

25 36. The article of claim 34, wherein said instructions, when executed by the computing platform, further operate to:

access a storage medium having at least a portion of said parity check matrix stored thereon before matrix multiplying.

37. The article of claim 34, wherein:

said parity check matrix is substantially as described in the list file of Appendix A.

5 38. The article of claim 34, wherein:

said parity check matrix defines a (2000, 1600) bit-length LDPC code.

1/5

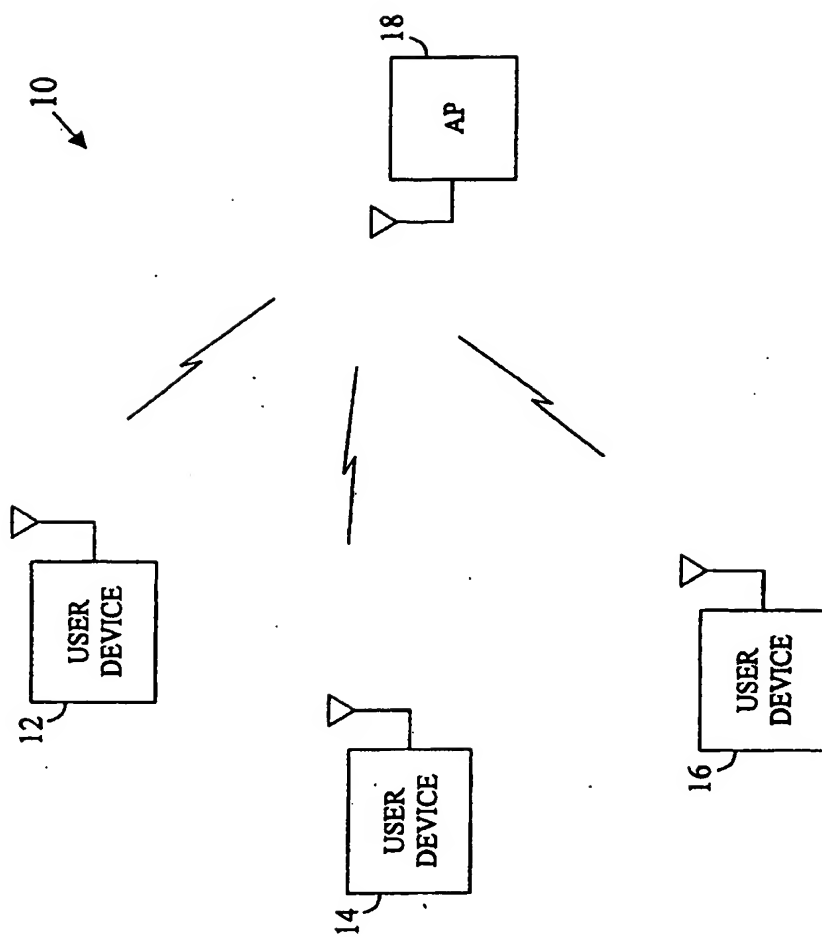


Fig. 1

2/5

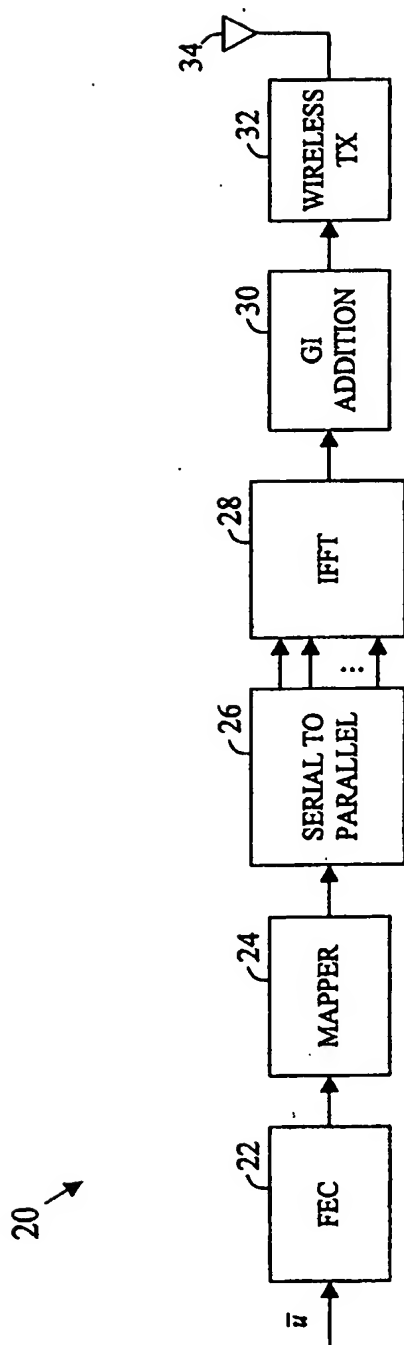


Fig. 2

3/5

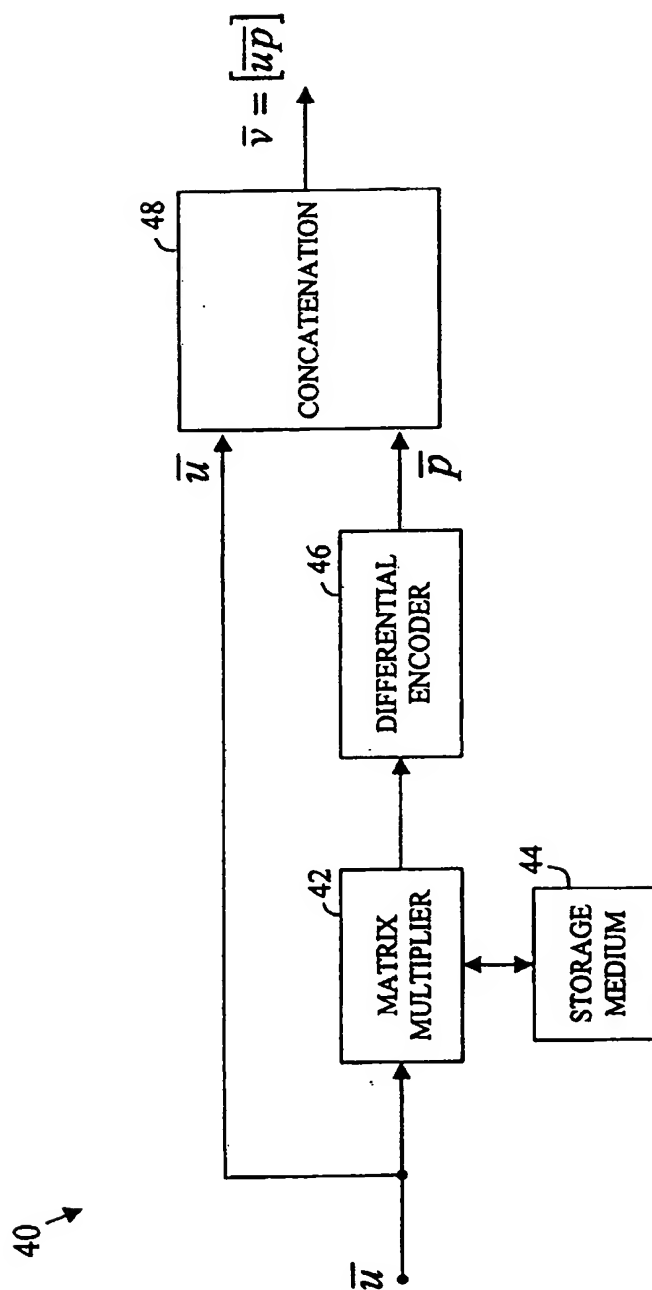


Fig. 3

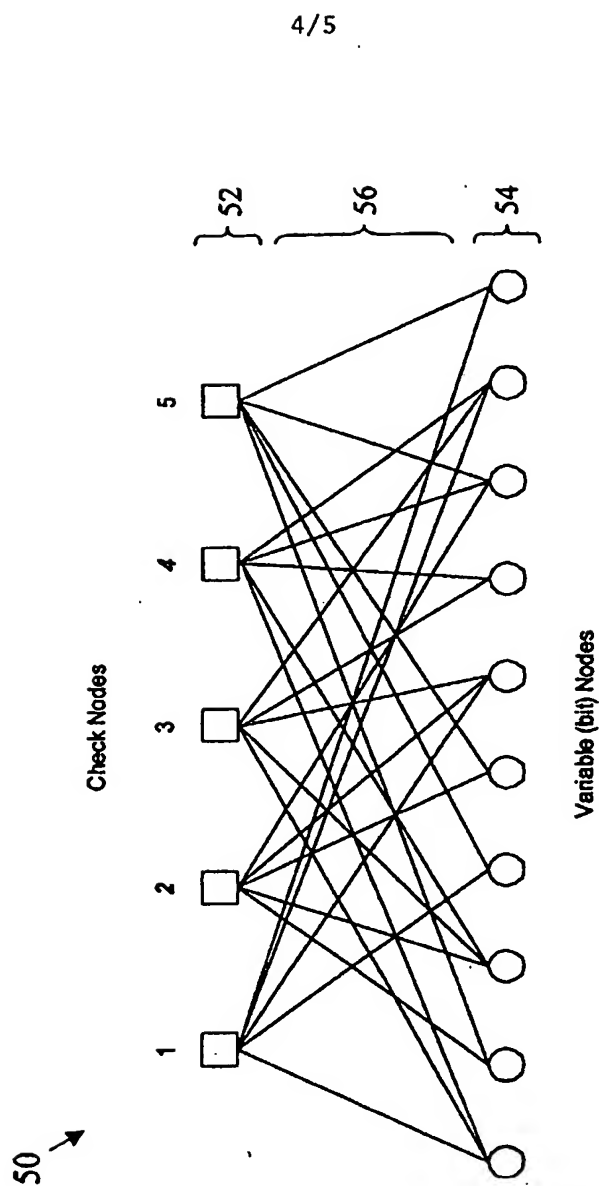
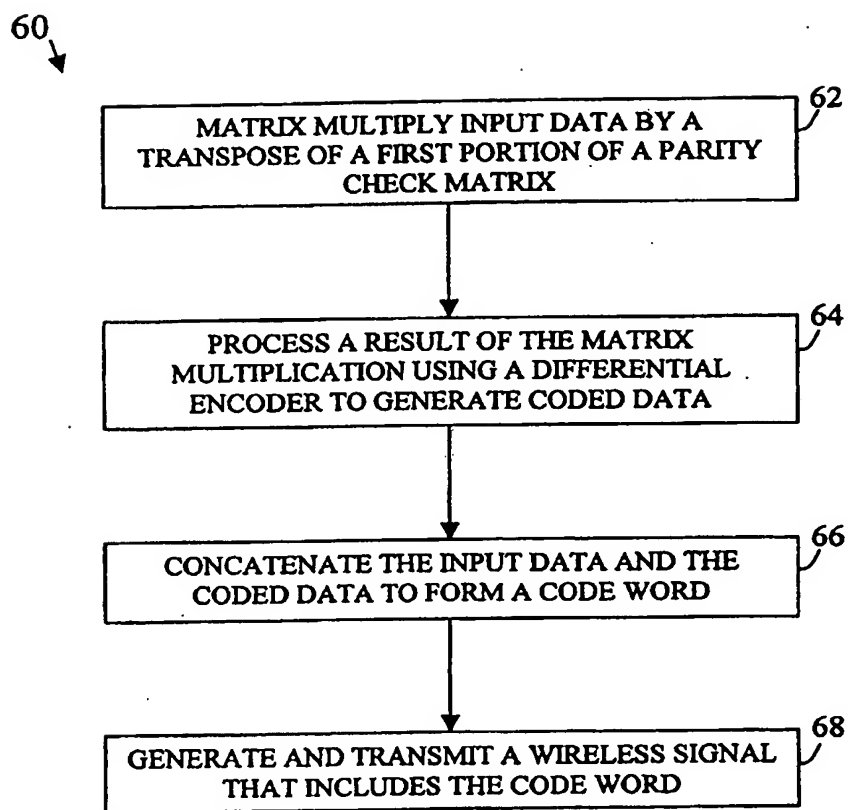


Fig. 4

5/5

**Fig. 5**

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US2005/000948

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 H04L1/00 H03M13/11

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 H04L H03M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>YANG M ET AL: "DESIGN OF EFFICIENTLY ENCODABLE MODERATE-LENGTH HIGH-RATE IRREGULAR LDPC CODES" PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON COMMUNICATION, CONTROL AND COMPUTING, 2 October 2002 (2002-10-02), pages 1415-1424, XP009042018 page 1419 - page 1422; figure 1a</p> <p style="text-align: center;">----- -/---</p>	1-21, 30-38

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☐ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

19 May 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

01/06/2005

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US2005/000948

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>FUTAKI H ET AL: "Performance of low-density parity-check (LDPC) coded OFDM systems"</p> <p>ICC 2002. 2002 IEEE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COMMUNICATIONS. CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS. NEW YORK, NY, APRIL 28 - MAY 2, 2002, IEEE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COMMUNICATIONS, NEW YORK, NY : IEEE, US, vol. VOL. 1 OF 5, 28 April 2002 (2002-04-28), pages 1696-1700, XP010589776</p> <p>ISBN: 0-7803-7400-2</p> <p>page 1696 - page 1698; figure 3</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>1-21, 30-38</p>
A	<p>SYED M J ET AL: "LDPC-based space-time coded OFDM systems performances over correlated fading channels"</p> <p>COMMUNICATIONS, 2003. APCC 2003. THE 9TH ASIA-PACIFIC CONFERENCE ON 21-24 SEPT. 2003, PISCATAWAY, NJ, USA, IEEE, vol. 2, 21 September 2003 (2003-09-21), pages 590-594, XP010688253</p> <p>ISBN: 0-7803-8114-9</p> <p>page 590; figure 1</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>1-21, 30-38</p>

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2005/000948

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 22-29
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.1

Claims Nos.: 22-29

Independent Claim 22 relates to an "article" comprising a machine readable storage medium that is merely characterised by the content of the information stored thereon - that is at least a portion of a parity check matrix being substantially as described in Appendix A of present application. Such subject-matter is however excluded from International search according to Rule 39.1(v) PCT (see PCT-Guidelines 9.02 and 9.11).

Any type of machine readable storage medium can be construed from Claim 22, for instance a conventional CD-ROM, a conventional MP3 player or a conventional personal computer (see also Claim 29 listing further possible interpretations). Claim 22 fails to define any structural or functional relationship whatsoever between the stored information and the storage medium. No technical effect can be derived from the fact that the CD-ROM, MP3 player or PC stores information, be it part of a parity check matrix, digitized music or a computer program code.

Consequently, Claim 22 has no technical character as it is solely defined by the content of the stored information (PCT-Guidelines 9.11).

The same applies to the subject-matter of dependent Claims 23-29. Claims 23-26 further specify the information stored in the storage medium and Claim 29 further specifies the type of storage medium used. Again, no technical interaction becomes apparent between the storage medium and the information stored thereon. This problem exists irrespective of whether the claimed "article" comprises only the storage medium (Claim 28) or also a wireless communication device (Claim 27) which does not interact in any way with the storage medium or the information stored.